

THE WALTER AND ELIZA HALL INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL RESEARCH

POSTAL ADDRESS: POST OFFICE, ROYAL MELBOURNE HOSPITAL, VICTORIA 3050, AUSTRALIA

AFFILIATED WITH
THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE
AND
THE ROYAL MELBOURNE HOSPITAL

DIRECTOR: PROFESSOR G. J. V. NOSSAL, F.A.A.

9th August, 1974

Professor J. Lederberg,
1431 Pitman Avenue,
PALO ALTO,
California 94301, U.S.A.

Dear Josh,

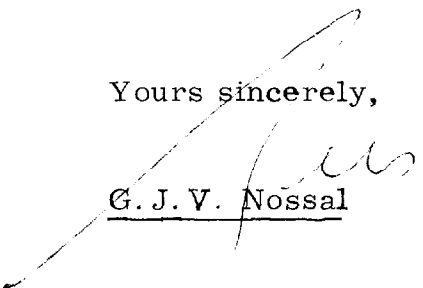
I was delighted to receive the details about Ann, and can vividly recall the nuisance value of "hospital staph" which our Brigid also brought home. Glad all is better now.

May I report to you briefly on the key events at the ACMR Meeting, where we missed you sorely? It looks as though the expanded programme of communicable tropical diseases will go ahead and, largely due to very vigorous pushing by Christian de Duve and myself, the Unit of Cell and Molecular Biology, Genetics and Immunology (essentially as proposed by yourself in 1973) will have responsibility for running the programme under Howard Goodman. There is a very great deal of work ahead, however, before the programme becomes a reality. The first step is to receive input from a planning group of the highest calibre. Howard Goodman and I agreed privately that you would be a key person to join this planning group, and I would urge you strongly to accept W.H.O.'s invitation which you will shortly receive, even if you cannot attend the meeting on the 7-8 October. The strategy which I proposed to Howard was to have a planning group of the highest ability, visibility and prestige. This could do most of its work through appointed Sub-committees, i.e. could have an advisory and policy formulating role while essentially not doing any time-consuming detail work. It would be anticipated that the planning group would evolve into an Advisory Council for the programme in due course.

In addition to the valuable perspectives and leadership which you would bring to the group, I am particularly conscious of the prestige angle. It will be vital to get the right type of postdoctoral interested in the programme, and it is only through key biologists, geneticists and immunologists in positions of world influence that we will gain access to this most precious resource.

Warmest regards.

Yours sincerely,


G. J. V. Nossal